BRITISH COLUMBIA HYDRO AND POWER AUTHORITY

REGISTERED TRAPLINE PROGRAM

POWER GENERATION PROJECTS

IN CO-OPERATION WITH

Province of British Columbia

Ministry of Environment

BRITISH COLUMBIA TRAPPERS ASSOCIATION

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REGISTERED TRAPLINE PROGRAM

BRITISH COLUMBIA HYDRO AND POWER AUTHORITY

PROPERTIES DIVISION

Power Generation Projects

IN COOPERATION WITH

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA
MINISTRY OF THE ENVIRONMENT
FISH AND WILDLIFE BRANCH

BRITISH COLUMBIA
TRAPPERS
ASSOCIATION

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INTRODUCTION

The objectives of the program are to provide a standard compensation policy that is fair and consistent to all registered trappers. The program compensates for harvest and trapline improvement losses caused by construction activities and provides incentives to trap and improve the remaining portions of the registered trapline.

The program contains measures to compensate trappers on an individual basis for losses related to trapping as a livelihood or business venture. These measures constitute the full entitlement of the participant. The program should be considered separately and independently from any possible mitigation or compensation agreements made between B. C. Hydro and the B. C. Fish and Wildlife Branch for conceivable population or habitat loss to the furbearer resource resulting from Hydro's activities.

The program described here becomes effective once B. C. Hydro receives authorization to construct a project. Separate programs dealing with feasibility and preliminary design studies and rights-of-way are also available.

1. The Role of the Trapper

The trapper is the principal participant in this voluntary program. It is the trapper's responsibility to cooperate with B. C. Hydro and the Inspection Committee to ensure the program properly addresses his circumstance. It is also the trapper's responsibility to actively and honestly participate in all phases of the program. Should a trapper choose to not participate on the program a settlement will be negotiated for construction related losses only.

2. The Role of B. C. Hydro

B. C. Hydro is responsible for the administration of the program. Specific duties include:

(a) Acquisition and processing of data for calculation compensation payments, including:

(i) mapping, classifying and quantifying habitats;
(ii) calculating the levels of impact;
(iii) participating with the trappers and the Inspection Committee in assessing the impacts to trapline improvements.

(b) Acquisition and processing of data for calculating incentive payments.

(c) Review, assess and inspect all improvements to the trapline being claimed under the Improvement Component, in cooperation with the trapper and the Inspection Committee.

(d) Payment of all administrative expenses arising from the program.

(e) The administrator of the program will be responsible for conducting investigations into any wrong doings by the program participants. The results of the investigations will be forwarded to the Inspection Committee for their consideration.

3. The Role of the Inspection Committee

An Inspection Committee will be formed for each project and will include one representative each chosen by; the impacted trappers, the B. C. Fish and Wildlife Branch and B. C. Hydro. The representatives, if possible will be local to the impacted area. The functions of the Committee are to:

(a) Review and confirm all calculations and decisions made by B. C. Hydro concerning Compensation and Incentive payments.

(b) If required, conduct with the trapper and B. C. Hydro an aerial and ground survey of the trapline to inventory losses on the portion displaced, as well as inventory potential trapping areas not presently being used.

(c) Review all trapline improvement requests for their validity.

(d) Review information provided by the program administrator into any wrong doings by trappers on the program and remove from the program anyone who knowingly misrepresents or falsifies any information or records for financial gain.

4. The Role of the Consulting Committee

A Consulting Committee composed of representatives of the B. C. Trappers Association, B. C. Fish and Wildlife Branch and B. C. Hydro has been established to oversee the administration of the program. Their duties would be to:

(a) Provide the structure for monitoring the policies of the program.

(b) Consider proposals for changes, initiate investigations of the proposed changes, consider appeals by the trappers, and recommend remedial action to B. C. Hydro required alterations.

(c) Annually assess the program and recommed to B. C. Hydro required alterations.

(d) Review each case at the end of the five year program to ensure the intention of these proposals have been carried out.

5. Power Generation Projects

Generation projects result in a loss of furbearer habitat and a reduction in the level of fur production. Destruction of trapline improvements may also occur. The program recognizes these impacts and attempts to compensate for them. The program also provides financial assistance to make improvements and to encourage trapping on the unimpacted area of the trapline.

5.1 Total - Permanent Loss

The program is designed to compensate the trapper for the loss of fur harvest and all improvements on the trapline. This will apply when the Inspection Committee and B. C. Fish and Wildlife Branch confirms the impact to the trapline is so extensive that the remainder is no longer a viable trapline and is therefore cancelled by the Fish and Wildlife Branch as a registered trapline.

It is the trappers option whether or not to purchase a new trapline. B. C. Hydro will not purchase a new trapline for the trapper. Money will be available to encourage trapping on the new trapline.

Should the trapper choose not to purchase a new trapline at this time he will still be paid for all losses as well as encouraged to continue trapping his trapline until the project is completed.

Trapper purchases new trapline

Payment for: Lost harvest;
Lost Improvements;
Incentive to trap new trapline.

Trapper does not purchase new trapline

Payment for: Lost harvest;
Lost Improvements;
Encouragement to trap out impact area.

5.1.1. Lost Harvest

The trapper will receive an annual payment for five years based on an average of past harvests, or on a potential harvest calculated using Table 1. The average for any species harvested will not be less than one. The B. C. Fish and Wildlife Branch records will be used and only

departed from where the trapper can substantiate any claims with receipts. The records of harvest will date back a maximum of ten years from the date that B. C. Hydro makes application for an Energy Project Certificate.

If a trapper has held the line for four years or more, but less than ten, the average will be calculated on those years. Where a trapper has held tenure of a trapline, for four years or more but has not trapped prior to the application of an Energy Project Certificate, the trapper will not be eligible for compensation.

Where a trapper has less than four years tenure a potential harvest estimate will be calculated by B. C. Hydro and confirmed by the Inspection Committee based on the potential harvest densities from Table 1.

The loss of fur harvest compensation payment will be calculated as follows:

Average harvest by species	x	B. C. average pelt value for the last complete trapping season by species	=	Compensation for species

5.1.2 Lost Improvements

The trapper will receive compensation for all cabins presently used on the trapline. The rate of payment will be $12.50 per square foot ($135.40 per square metre). Any residence registered under the Land Act (private property) that is displaced by the project will be compensated for under the lard acquisition program.

Compensation will also be paid for all physical improvements on the trapline including trails, permanent cubbies, caches and other trapping related improvements. Improvements will be inspected by the trapper and B. C. Hydro to determine a "labour time". The "labour time", in hours; will then be multiplied by the current labour rate ($9.50 hour) to determine their value.

5.1.3 Incentive to Trap New Trapline

The trapper will be paid, in addition to monies he receives from the private sale of pelts, a payment based on the B. C. average pelt value for up to the maximum potential harvest (Table 1) on the new trapline. These payments will be prorated over five years as follows:

Year 1 - 100%

Year 2 - 100%

Year 3 - 75%

Year 4 - 50%

Year 5 - 25%

The average pelt value will be the most recent years B. C. average as computed by the Fish and Wildlife Branch.

The Inspection Committee will decide if and how much money should be made available for the purchase of transportion equipment as detailed in the Improvement Component of Partial - Permanent Losses.

5.1.4 Encouragement to Trap Out Impact Area

The trapper will be paid, in addition to monies he receives from the private sale of pelts, a payment based on the B. C. average pelt value for each fur harvested from the trapline more than the number of a sustainable harvest level as calculated using Table 1. Only furs trapped within the area of impact will be paid for. This payment is being made to encourage the trapper to totally trap out the area of impact and thereby make use of a population of

animals that would otherwise be destroyed by the project. The payment to harvest these animals will commence the year clearing or construction begins on the trapline and terminate the year the trapline is totally cleared. The sustainable harvest level will be recalculated for each year to account for clearing.

5.2 Partial - Permanent Loss

The program is designed to compensate the trapper for his losses and provide initiative and financial assistance to continue trapping on the remaining portions of the trapline.

This section applies to all traplines not designated as "Total - Permanent". The level of compensation will be calculated by B. C. Hydro and confirmed by the Inspection Committee.

5.2.1 Compensation Component

Compensation is a payment for impacts to a trapline from construction activities resulting in a permanent loss of habitat. Compensation is paid for loss of harvest and for loss of cabins.

5.2.1.1 Loss of Harvest

Compensation is calculated for each species by the following formulas:

Average harvest by species	x	Percent harvest reduced by species	=	Number of impacted animals by species

Number of impacted animals by species	x	B. C. average pelt value by species	=	Compensation for species

Average Harvest By Species

Obtained from B. C. Fish and Wildlife Branch records based on an average of the previous ten years trapping returns from the year B. C. Hydro applies for an Energy Project Certificate. If the trapline has been held for between four and ten years, the average will be based on that number of years. The average for any previously harvested species will not be less than one.

Trapping returns will only be added to when the trapper can substatiate the claims with receipts. Where a trapper has held tenure of a trapline for four years or more but has not trapped prior to the application of an Energy Project Certification, the trapper will not be eligible for either the Compensation or Incentive portion of the program. He will be eligible for the Improvement Component.

Where a trapper has less than four years tenure, an average harvest will be calculated by B. C. Hydro and confirmed by the Inspection Committee based on the potential harvest densities from Table 1. The area of habitat will be multiplied by the density figure from Table 1 to give an average harvest estimate.

Permanent harvest reduced by species

It is assumed that a percent loss of habitat is reflected in an equal percent loss of harvest of furbearer in that habitat. The percent loss of habitat is determined by dividing the area of each habitat type lost by the total area of that habitat on the trapline.

B. C. Average Pelt Value

Obtained from the B. C. Fish and Wildlife Branch based on the last complete trapping season for each of the five years of the program.

5.2.1.2 Loss of Cabins

The trapper will receive compensation for all cabins presently used in the impacted area. The rate of payment will be $12.50 per square foot ($135.40 per square metre). Any residence registered under the Land Act (private property) that is displaced by the project will be compensated for through the Land Acquisition Program.

B. C. Hydro will provide to the trappers and the Inspection Committee topographic maps, aerial photographs or photo mosaics of each trapline.

If required, the trapper, the Inspection Committee and B. C. Hydro will conduct an aerial and ground survey of the whole trapline. An aircraft appropriated to the area will be provided for up to three hours upon request from the Inspection Committee. An inventory of losses on the portion impacted will be made at this time as well as an

inventory of potential trapping areas not presently being used. Following the inspection the level of compensation will be calculated by B. C. Hydro and confirmed by the Inspection Committee.

Example

1. A trappers average annual harvest is 9 lynx.
2. The percent harvest reduced is 18%.
3. The number of impacted animals is 9 x 18% = 1.6 = 2
4. The B. C. average pelt value for the last year was $265.00.
5. Compensation for lynx is 2 x $265.00 = $530.00.

This type of calculation will be made for every previously trapped species and paid for annually over a five year period.

The annual payment will be adjusted according to the latest years average pelt value.

1 cabin - 8 foot x 10 foot = 80 square feet @ $12.50 per square foot = $1,000.00.

after Project

	Lost	% Loss
	1.3 km^2	2%
	3.3 km^2	18%
	4.0 km^2	66%

1 cabin displaced - $12.50 per square foot

Eg. Compensation

Trapline

Scale
1:100,000

River
Aquatic
Seral
Climax

Cabins
Trails . . . .

Total

Area of climax	56 km^2
Area of seral (lynx)	18 km^2
Area of aquatic	6 km^2

15-16- OVERLAY

Eg. Compensation

Trapline after Project

Scale
1:100,000

River
Aquatic
Seral
Climax
Reservoir

Cabins
Trails . . . .

	Total	Lost	% loss
Area of climax	56 km^2	1.8 km^2	2%
Area of seral (lynx)	18 km^2	3.3 km^2	18%
Area of aquatic	6 km^2	4.0 km^2	66%

1 cabin displaced - $12.50 per square foot

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5.2.2 Trapping Incentive Component

This component will provide incentives to the trapper to continue trapping on the remaining portion of the trapline. It applies only where there is permanent habitat loss on some portion of the trapline resulting from a project.

The trapper will be paid, in addition to monies he receives from the private sale of pelts, a payment based on the B. C. average pelt value for up to two times the impacted number of animals, as calculated in the compensation component. If the trapper harvests less than double the impacted number he will be paid for the lower total. The minimum number paid for will be one for all impacted animals presently trapped. The maximum number will not exceed the potential harvest of the remaining trapline.

Example

1. A trapper's average annual harvest is 9 lynx.
2. The precentage of reduction in harvest is 18%.
3. The number of impacted lynx is:

$$9 \times 18\% = 1.6 = 2$$

Leaving seven harvestable lynx.

4. The trapper is eligible for incentive payments for up to double the impacted total:

   2 x 2 = 4

5. If the trapper catches less than 4 he receives payment for that number, i.e. 3 lynx caught - 3 will be paid for.

6. If the trapper catches more than 4 he receives payment for 4 only.

7. If double the impact number (4) had been greater than the number remaining (7), the lesser of the two would be paid for.

If a species has been impacted by 100% or not impacted, no incentive payments will be available for that species.

If a trapper has not harvested an impacted species before, potential harvest limits of the area of impact will be calculated using Table 1. The limit of the incentive payment will be double the potential harvest within the limits of a sustainable harvest.

The average market value paid per pelt will be the most recent year's British Columbia average as computed by the B. C. Fish and Wildlife Branch.

The incentive payments will be prorated over the five year period to ease the trapper back into full independent production. They are:

Year 1 - 100%

Year 2 - 100%

Year 3 - 75%

Year 4 - 50%

Year 5 - 25%.

The incentive payment will be calculated as follows:

Number of trapped animals by species x Incentive pays for (maximum of two times the number impacted or present sustainable harvest whichever is less)	Annual prorated percentage	x	B. C. average pelt value for the last complete trapping season by species	= Incentive for species

Example

For Lynx

# trapped	2 x impacted #	# Incentive paid for		B. C. average pelt value	Incentive for lynx
7	4	4	Year 1-100%	$265.00	$1,060.00
8	4	4	Year 2-100%	$280.00	$1,120.00
3	4	3	Year 3- 75%	$190.00	$ 427.50
6	4	4	Year 4- 50%	$210.00	$ 420.00
9	4	4	Year 5- 25%	$270.00	$ 270.00

Payments will be made following the trapping season upon receipt of the B. C. average pelt price data and fur harvest returns from the B. C. Fish and Wildlife Branch. All harvest claims not on the fur harvest return must be substantiated with receipts.

5.2.3. Trapline Improvement Component

A maximum of $7,500.00 will be available for improvements to the remaining unimpacted area of a trapline. The improvements include cutting trails, building caches,

building permanent cubbies, building cabins, habitat improvements, (Part of Section XV of Canadian Trappers' Manual), purchasing transportation equipment and any other related improvements.

Money will be made available only based on proven need as determined by the Inspection Committee and will not automatically be available for every affected trapline.

The trapper must receive the approval of the Inspection Committee before any work is started or before any equipment purchased. Improvements will be inspected by B. C. Hydro prior to any payments. Labour payments will be made at a rate of $9.50 per hour.

Cabins built in excess of the number impacted by the project and paid for in the Compensation Component may be claimed. The trapper must prove need and obtain approval from the Inspection Committee before starting construction. The trapper must obtain a "License of Occupation" or equivalent from the Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing before construction. An annual registration fee and taxes

will be assessed by the Ministry. The trapper must also obtain a permit from the Ministry of Forests if he intends to cut trees to build a log cabin. The completed cabin will be inspected by B. C. Hydro and paid for at $12.50 per square foot ($135.40 per square metre).

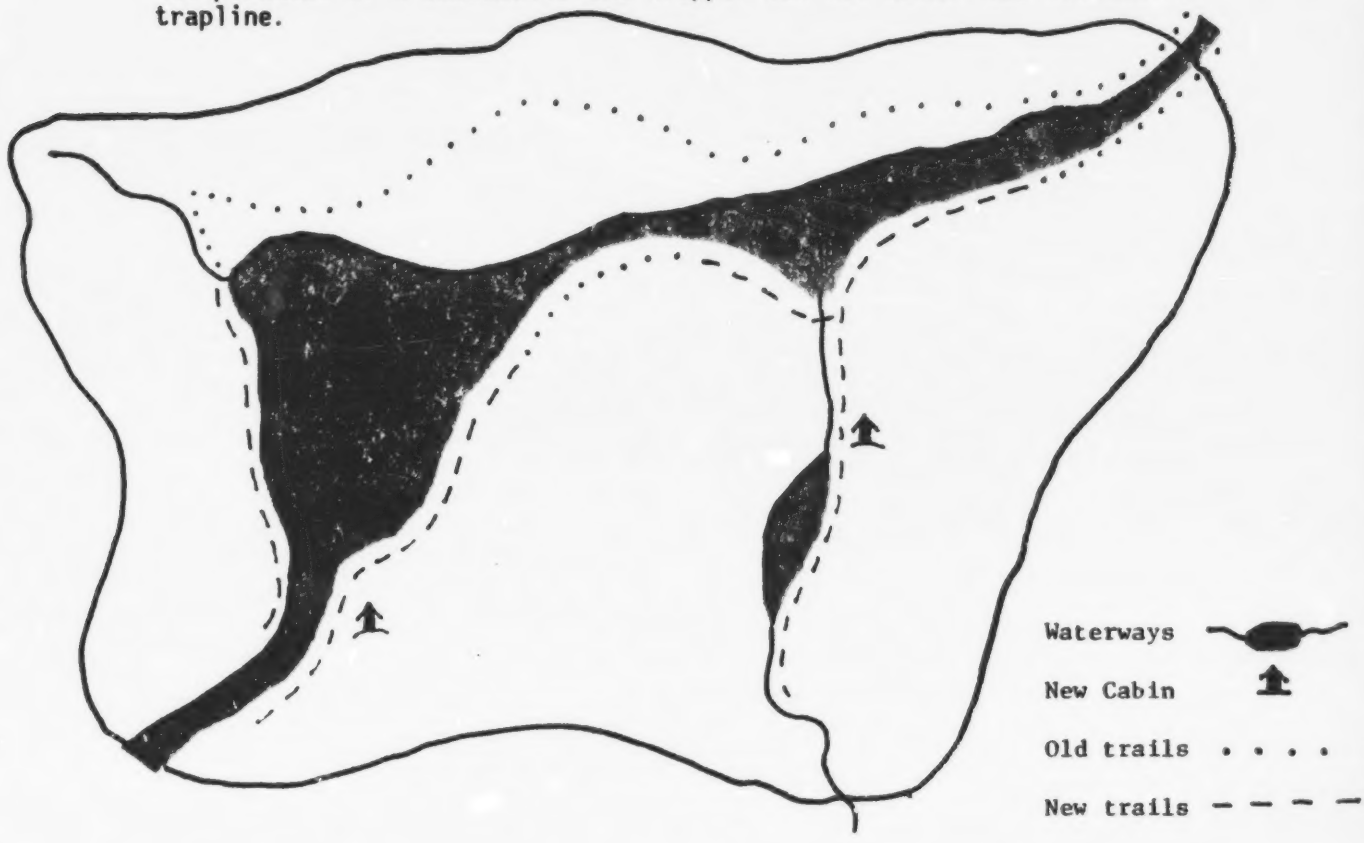
Up to one half of the trapline improvement monies ($3,750.00) may be used for the purchase of transportation equipment, including all terrain vehicles (excluding cars and trucks), boats, canoes, and/or motors. Only one of each will be allowed for each trapline after the trapper proves need to the Inspection Committee. B. C. Hydro will not be liable for any malfunctions, repairs or damages occurring to these items.

Equipment purchased through the program may not be sold for three years. Equipment may be traded only if the new equipment is for use on the trapline. Approval from B. C. Hydro must be received prior to any transactions.

All improvements must be complete and reimbursements claimed within the five year duration of the program.

EXAMPLE - IMPROVEMENT (Maximum $7,500.00)

The trapper has received approval from the Inspection Committee and Ministry of Lands, Parks and Housing to construct two new cabins and some trails into an area of his trapline that is presently inaccessable. With the purchase of a snowmobile the trapper can now better use his entire trapline.



Two Cabins - Since one cabin was lost and paid for due to the clearing, only one cabin can be claimed for payment under the Improvement part.

10' x 8' cabin = 80 sq. ft. @ $12.50/sq. ft. = $1,000.00

New Trails - 60 hrs. of labour @ $9.50/hr. = $ 570.00

One Twin Track Snowmobile Cost $4,800.00 - Hydro reimbursement maximum = $3,750.00

Total = $5,320.00

The trapper has five years to build and claim all improvements.

6. Multiple Impacts

When a generation project and a right-of-way occur on a trapline within the same time frame of a trapper being on this program, the trapper will be eligible for compensation and incentive payments for the total area of impact. The Improvement Component will be limited to the Power Generation Project allotment ($7,500.00).

If a trapper has been on either the Power Generation Project or Right-of-Way Program before he will be eligible to participate on the program again, however, the Inspection Committee will decide if the amount of money to be made available in the Improvement Component.

7. Impact Assessment

The furbearers have been segregated based on habitat use patterns. This segregation will allow more accurate assessment of the level of impact. At present three habitat types have been selected. The number of habitat types may in the future be changed to better specify the habitat use of each species.

Habitat	General Habitat	Species
Aquatic	Watercourses and wetland area	beaver, muskrat, mink and otter
Seral	Deciduous forests and riparian areas	weasel, fox, coyote wolf, bobcat, lynx, raccoon and skunk
Climax	Coniferous forest	squirrel, marten, fisher and wolverine

B. C. Hydro will calculate the habitat loss incurred by species in each habitat utilizing maps, aerial photos and mosaics, aerial surveys and ground truthing. The Inspection Committee will confirm the figures.

8. Conditions of Participation

Participation in the program is voluntary. Each trapper participating in the program must agree to and accept the following conditions.

(a) Decisions made by the Consulting Committee and the Inspection Committee are binding on all parties.

(b) There is a five year time limit on the program.

(c) There are definite financial limits in the improvement component.

(d) The trapper will guarantee full and honest cooperation and participation.

(e) The trapper will grant B. C. Hydro permission to gain access to all pertinent records associated with the trapline and trapping activity.

(f) The trapper will permit and cooperate in the inspection of his trapline and the improvements for the duration of the program.

(g) Should the trapper intentionally misrepresent any information or defraud B. C. Hydro, the trapper will be removed from the program.

9. Transfer of Trapline Rights

In the event of the cessation of trapping by an active trapper compensation will be paid on the following basis:

(a) Where a discontinuance occurs during the period between signing on to the program and receiving the first payment, the trapper or his estate will receive a lump sum payment equivalent to the total Compensation as calculated under the Compensation Component. No Incentive or Improvement payments will be made.

(b) Where a discontinuance occurs following the receipt of any payments a lump payment equivalent to the difference between the total Compensation as calculated under the Compensation Component and the Compensation already paid will be made. No additional Incentive or Improvement payments will be paid to that already earned while on the program.

The program will be terminated if and when the original participant relinquishes tenancy of the trapline.

10. Community Traplines

Where a Community Trapline is affected, B. C. Hydro will pay compensation to all active trappers. Payments will be based on the program. Proof of harvest must be substatiated with receipts except where the trapline has been held for less than four years whereby potential harvest will be determined using Table 1. The community must provide B. C. Hydro with a list of trappers eligible to recieve compensation and the percentage that each is entitled to. No new trappers will be added to the original list submitted at the start of the program. Trapping incentives and trapline improvement payments will be made only to those trappers named on the original list.

In the event of the cessation of trapping by any of the entitled trappers, compensation will be paid as outlined in Section 9. That percentage of compensation allocated to the trapper that ceased trapping will not be allocated to any other trapper, nor will the percentage be adjusted for the remaining trappers. The improvement payment limits will remain the same.

REVIEW

The Consulting Committee will review each case at the end of the five year program to ensure that the intention of these proposals has been carried out.

TABLE 1

REASONABLE HARVEST DENSITIES FOR BRITISH COLUMBIA FURBEARERS

SPECIES	HABITAT QUALITY		
	POOR	MODERATE	GOOD
AQUATIC:			
Beaver	0.5 per lodge	0.75 per lodge	1.5 per lodge
Muskrat - Interior	0.5 per pushup	0.75 per pushup	1.5 per pushup
- Coastal	0.75 per pushup	1.5 per pushup	2.0 per pushup
Mink	0.12 per km of waterway (0.2 per mile)	0.38 per km of waterway (0.6 per mile)	0.65 per km of waterway (1.0 per mile)
Otter	0.05 per km of waterway (0.08 per mile)	0.10 per km of waterway (0.16 per mile)	0.15 per km of waterway (0.24 per mile)
SERAL:			
Weasel	0.02 per km^2 (0.05 per sq. mi.)	0.08 per km^2 (0.21 per sq. mi.)	0.15 per km^2 (0.39 per sq. mi.)
Fox	0.002 per km^2 (0.005 per sq. mi.)	0.04 per km^2 (0.10 per sq. mi.)	0.06 per km^2 (0.16 per sq. mi.)
Coyote	0.009 per km^2 (0.024 per sq. mi.)	0.03 per km^2 (0.08 per sq. mi.)	0.06 per km^2 (0.15 per sq. mi.)
Wolf	0.0005 per km^2 (0.001 per sq. mi.)	0.0025 per km^2 (0.006 per sq. mi.)	0.009 per km^2 (0.024 per sq. mi.)
Bobcat	0.0025 per km^2 (0.006 per sq. mi.)	0.0075 per km^2 (0.018 per sq. mi.)	0.025 per km^2 (0.06 per sq. mi.)
Lynx - High	0.008 per km^2 (0.02 per sq. mi.)	0.02 per km^2 0.05 per sq. mi.)	0.05 per km^2 (0.13 per sq. mi.)
- Low	0.003 per km^2 (0.008 per sq. mi.)	0.009 per km^2 (0.024 per sq. mi.)	0.018 per km^2 (0.048 per sq. mi.)
Raccoon	0.03 per km^2 (0.08 per sq. mi.)	0.1 per km^2 (0.26 per sq. mi.)	0.2 per km^2 (0.5 per sq. mi.)
Skunk	0.0006 per km^2 (0.0016 per sq. mi.)	0.0015 per km^2 (0.0039 per sq. mi.)	0.003 per km^2 (0.0078 per sq. mi.)
CLIMAX:			
Red Squirrel	0.09 per km^2 (0.24 per sq. mi.)	0.75 per km^2 (1.9 per sq. mi.)	1.5 per km^2 (3.9 per sq. mi.)
Pine Marten	0.05 per km^2 (0.13 per sq. mi.)	0.1 per km^2 (0.26 per sq. mi.)	0.2 per km^2 (0.5 per sq. mi.)
Fisher	0.004 per km^2 (0.015 per sq. mi.)	0.015 per km^2 (0.04 per sq. mi.)	0.025 per km^2 (0.065 per sq. mi.)
Wolverine	0.0015 per km^2 (0.0039 per sq. mi.)	0.003 per km^2 (0.008 per sq. mi.)	0.0075 per km^2 (0.019 per sq. mi.)